CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1. (Currently amended)

[[An]] The invention is a manual apparatus for ~~cutting~~ use by an operator to slice a potato into a uniformly thin continuous spiral slice, the slice for frying as a potato chip with the apparatus requiring both hands to operate to safely cut the potato slice, with both hands being away from the sharp blade and the rotating driver teeth during cutting and comprising:

a fixed vertical blade attached to a blade support , the blade support being attached to a base and angled horizontally ~~from 15 degrees to 25 degrees~~ 20 degrees from perpendicular to the centerline of the drive spindle ~~with 20 degrees being optimal~~ with the blade sharpened on one side for cutting[[.]];

an adjustable pilot pin extending through a hole in the blade, the pilot pin being in alignment with the drive spindle centerline and secured in its adjusted position by a lock nut[[;]], the farthest end of the pilot pin being thread connected to the blade support and the nearest end of the pilot pin functioning to ~~the pilot to position and~~ support and position a [[the]] potato at the immediate cutting edge of the blade[[.]] , and with the pilot pin adjusted to contact the forward end of the drive spindle and prevent the driver teeth from contacting the blade at the end of the slice;

a drive support which is attached to the base, serves as a means for positioning the drive spindle with the centerline of the drive spindle being located 2 and ¼ inches above the base and is the same centerline location above the base as that of the pilot pin;

~~a feed controlled rotary and forward motion through~~ a means for manual cranking with a crank handle on the end of a ~~3/8" – 16~~ threaded , American Standard Uniform Thread Form 3/8 inch 16 threads per inch spindle, in a clockwise direction, rotating a potato engaged by the teeth of a driver on the spindle end which engages the nearest end of the potato, and the potato supported by a pilot in the potatoes farthest end, and which produces a rotation of said potato and longitudinal motion in a forward direction with the potato contacting a fixed blade to produce a continuous spiral slice [[of]] approximating .0625 inch thickness[[.]];

a drive nut guide with a drive nut assembled to it, ~~holding~~ positions the drive nut ~~positions and actuates manually~~ adjacent to the drive spindle and applied manual pressure on the drive nut [[to]] engages the drive nut threads to the drive spindle threads through a window opening in the drive support, ~~spindle to~~ caus[[e]]ing forward motion of the rotating drive

spindle, the drive spindle [[it]] being assembled internal to the drive support[[.]];

a ~~four toothed~~ driver with four flat teeth of 7/16 inch length is ~~located~~ assembled at the forward end of the drive spindle and secured by a lock nut[[;]], the driver penetrates a [[the]] potato and transfers the forward and rotary motion of the the hand cranked drive spindle to the potato thus forcing it into the sharp edge of the cutting blade[[.]];

a base for mounting of the blade support and drive support sub-assemblies utilizes [[using]] four rubber support legs and two metal spring type counter stop arms to stabilize the apparatus in use[[.]] on a table or counter top and during use of the apparatus the support legs and counter stops provide a means by which the apparatus remains stationary on a counter top or table with downward left hand pressure and forward right hand cranking pressure during cutting of a potato of

maximum size 50 count, such average size approximating 6 and ½ inches length and 3 and 1/2 inches diameter and requiring significant torque to accomplish the spiral slice cut, and avoiding the use of clamps or suction cup devices for the apparatus to remain in a stationary position and additionally the counter stop arms prevent the crank from contacting the counter top or table on which it is positioned as the apparatus nears the end of a cut.